

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

RECEIVED

MAY. 1 9. 2004

OHTSUKA PAT

To:

OHTSUKA Yasunori

7th FL. SHUWA KIOICHO PARK  
BLDG.,  
3-6, KIOICHO, CHIYODA-KU,  
Tokyo 1020094 Japan

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

18. 5. 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P203-0561WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/000709

International filing date (day/month/year)

27. 01. 2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

29. 01. 2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> G06F15/00

Applicant

CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Japan Patent Office

3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan

Authorized officer

Kazushige Goto

Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 6916

5B

9463

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP 2004/000709

Box No. I      Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/ 000709

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

|                               |        |        |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 1 - 19 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims | 1 - 19 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1 - 19 | YES |
|                               | Claims |        | NO  |

2. Citations and explanations

D1:JP 2002-183093 A(CANON Kabusiki Kaisha) 2002.06.28  
D2:WO 2002/025457 A(CAI Kabusiki Kaisha) 2002.03.28  
D3:JP 2002-269043 A(CANON Kabusiki Kaisha) 2002.09.20  
D4:JP 2001-249941 A(Nihon Dennshin Dennwa Kabusiki Kaisha) 2001.09.14  
D5:JP 11-219340 A(Mitsubishi Denki Kabusiki Kaisha) 1999.08.10

Claims 1-19

The subject matters of claims 1-19, details of the determination means for authentication information that is capable of changing over the plurality, are neither disclosed in the closest prior documents D1-D5 cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Therefore, the subject matters of claims 1-19 appear to be novel and to involve an inventive step.